

KY Victim Services

KY Attorney General's Victim
Advocacy Division
800-696-5312

KY Domestic Violence Association
502-209-5382

KY Association of Sexual Assault
Programs
800-656-4673

KY Crime Victim Compensation Board
502-573-2290 or 800-469-2120

KY Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline
502-595-4550 or 800-752-6200

KY Domestic Violence Hotline
800-829-1122

Information provided by:

Kentucky Department of Corrections
Office of Victim Services
275 E. Main Street
P.O. Box 2400
Frankfort, KY 40602-2400

Phone: 502-564-5061
Toll Free: 877-OVS-6818
Fax: 502-564-5642

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Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Corrections

Office of Victim Services



877-OVS-6818

*Serving the Commonwealth
One Victim At A Time*



What is OVS?

The Kentucky Office of Victim Services is committed to assisting victims and survivors throughout the duration of their offender's incarceration and supervision. We are dedicated to ensuring that crime victims are treated with dignity and respect.

A victim's need for assistance does not stop once an offender has been sentenced. In fact, it continues throughout an offender's custody and OVS is the arm of Corrections which handles those requests for assistance.

Victim advocates from OVS work with victims daily as they attempt to locate information about their offender. We also travel the state to educate those involved in the criminal justice system about the VINE program – with the goal that all victims are aware of the protection the service offers.

These services include, but are not limited to: Explanation of inmate release dates and release type; restitution information; awareness training for criminal justice and other victim services professionals; referrals and victims' rights services.

What Services Are Provided by OVS ?

The Office of Victim Services provides the following services:

- Information and referrals
- Information about the status of an inmate
- Referral for victim restitution inquiries
- Assistance with the Kentucky VINE Service
- Notification of upcoming parole hearings
- Processing of Requests for Notification Upon Release
- Training for criminal justice and other victim services professionals on awareness and sensitivity issues, as well as the VINE system
- Attending statewide conferences that bring victims, victim advocates, service providers and criminal justice professionals together to train, share information and network
- Visits to county jails and victim service providers to distribute promotional materials related to Victim Services offered by the Department

Victim Input into Parole Board Decisions

The Kentucky Parole Board notifies victims throughout the state of pending parole hearings 45 to 90 days prior to the inmate’s hearing. By law, they are only provided with the names of those victims of Class A, B or C felonies. The Victim Services Division of the Parole Board is happy to notify any victim of upcoming parole information as long as they have the necessary contact information. It is advised that any victim who is interested in being notified of an upcoming parole hearing contact the Board at 1-800-221-5991 to ensure their information is on file.

In the event the victim’s address changes after the court proceedings, it is essential that the victim notify the Board.

The Board’s notification process is designed to provide the name of the offender, parole eligibility date and a Victim Impact Statement (VIS). Victims are encouraged to complete the VIS and promptly return it to the following address: Kentucky Parole Board, Attention: Victim Coordinator, P.O. Box 2400, Frankfort, KY 40602-2400.

The law requires that anyone who wishes to meet with the Board for a victim hearing advise the Board in writing, not less than seven days prior to the inmate hearing.

In an effort to ensure that all interested individuals are notified, the Department of Corrections offers parole eligibility notification through the VINE service. The automated notification service is provided to anyone who registers with VINE, but is not intended to replace the required written notifications.

What will VINE do for me?

VINE will tell you if an offender is in jail and will give you other important custody information. VINE will also let you leave a phone number and/or an e-mail address where you can be notified automatically when that offender is released, transferred, escapes or has an upcoming parole hearing.

Registering with VINE

To register a phone number, call **1-800-511-1670** from a touch-tone phone and follow the instructions. If the offender is in jail, you can register your phone number to be called when they are released. Enter the phone number where you want to be reached, including area code, followed by the pound (#) key.

When VINE asks, make up and enter a four-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) code that will be easy for you to remember. Write it on the back of this brochure or in a safe place. VINE will ask for the PIN code when it calls you.

If you wish to register an e-mail address for notification, go to **www.vinelink.com** and click on the state of Kentucky. You can search for the offender by name or identification number. Once you locate the offender you are looking for, if they are in custody at a KY facility, you can enter an e-mail address.

VINE Facts

- The offender will not know you are registered with VINE.
- If you are not home, VINE will leave a message on an answering machine. If there is no answer, VINE will keep calling back until you enter your PIN code or until up to 48 hours have passed.
- Since VINE calls automatically when an offender’s custody status changes, you may get a call from VINE in the middle of the night.
- Do not leave a phone number with VINE that rings to a switchboard.
- Do not depend only on the VINE service or any other single program for your protection. Make VINE a part of your safety plan.
- You can register more than one phone number or e-mail address with VINE.

Written Notification of an Offender’s Release

If an inmate is in the custody of the Department of Corrections and a victim wishes to be notified in writing of an inmate’s release, they should submit a written request.

This request should include the victim’s name, current mailing address, and a phone number, along with the inmate’s name and institutional number, if known. This written request should be mailed to the following address:

**Office of Victim Services
P.O. Box 2400
Frankfort, KY 40602-2400**

The office phone number is 877-OVS-6818. If a victim’s address changes, it is their responsibility to inform the Department of their new address.

*Attention:
We suggest you clip this card and keep it near your telephone. You must have the PIN when we notify you. If your phone number changes, be sure to update your VINE registration*

VINE Registration Information

Offender Name _____
Offender ID # _____
My 4-digit PIN _____

1-800-511-1670